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As our Nation's World War II and Korean Veterans grow older, it is critical that we record their stories. Their experiences offer a priceless window into their dedication and love of country. As the daughter of a Korean War veteran, this effort has special personal meaning for me. We have much to learn from those who have served our Nation, and I wholeheartedly support this important project.

On this Veterans Day, November 12, 2007, I am proud to recognize Philadelphia-Montgomery Christian Academy's Veterans History Project participation at a special event, Preserving Their Stories: A Salute to Veterans History Project Volunteers, at the Hiway Theatre in Jenkintown. This special celebration will bring together Americans, both young and old, with veterans of all ages, to honor their common service to their fellow citizens and country.

Madam Speaker, once again I congratulate all of the Veterans History Project participants for their contributions to capturing the experiences of war veterans, thus honoring the lives and contributions of these extraordinary Americans.

#### ANSWERING THE CALL IN THE WAKE OF TROPICAL STORM NOEL

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to seek my colleagues' help with the humanitarian crisis in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico, and the Bahamas, whose devastation many have compared to Hurricane Katrina.

Last week, Tropical Storm Noel became the deadliest storm of the 2007 hurricane season, responsible for at least 140 deaths throughout the Caribbean. Flooding and mudslides caused by the heavy rainfall led to the displacement of more than 80,000 people and isolated small towns and villages in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico, and the Bahamas.

The track of this deadly storm brought back those poignant reflections of how helpless we felt when Katrina hit, how frustrated we were at not being able to help, and the lessons we learned from that storm. Yet now a new storm has come with the same intensity and devastation and we have a chance to do something about it.

Our Government is beginning to respond. This past weekend, three U.S. Coast Guard helicopters began conducting search and rescue operations and assisted with aerial assessments of affected areas to determine needs. The Defense Department has sent helicopters and personnel to the Dominican Republic and Peace Corps volunteers in the country have been dispatched to affected areas to help.

In all, the United States Government has contributed over \$350,000 directly to the Do-

minican Government, \$200,000 to the Pan American Health Organization and \$100,000 to Catholic Relief Services, CRS, and World Vision for the local water, shelter materials, and other emergency relief supplies. Our Government has also provided, through U.S. Agency for International Development and the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, an additional \$500,000 for emergency relief supplies, water, sanitation, and hygiene support, and other emergency relief activities.

Yet more help is needed. The U.N. reports that 40 percent of the water distribution system and 60 percent of the country's 122 aqueducts have been damaged. Public shelters and medical facilities are reaching their maximum capacity, while sanitation conditions are deteriorating and relief supplies are quickly running out.

It's true that we can't fly the helicopters and we can't distribute the water. But there are a lot of other ways in which we can help. We here in Congress can make sure that our Government does not stray from these initial commitments and that bureaucratic red tape does not impede the transportation of supplies to the areas hardest hit. We can also appeal to constituents in our own home districts to give to the local charities that are involved in this effort, like the Red Cross or Catholic Charities.

We must not forget that our country's strength lies not just in size of our military, but also in the depth of our compassion. Whatever people can give—from hard cash to canned goods to clothes—will help lift and restore the lives of the victims of this terrible tragedy. My effort will go a long way to relieving the suffering that continues to be felt by our friends and neighbors.

#### CELEBRATING THE PEAK CENTER'S VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT PARTICIPATION

#### HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Peak Center in Lansdale, PA on their outstanding participation in the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress. Community volunteers have contributed their time and skills to preserving the remarkable experiences of our war veterans from all service branches, from World War I to the present day Iraq War, as well as the civilians who supported them. I am privileged to represent these volunteers and staff in Congress.

The Veterans History Project preserves the legacy of those who have served through the establishment of a permanent national collection, housed in the Library of Congress, of videotaped and recorded interviews, written memoirs, and wartime letters, diaries, and photographs. Stories and materials are available to anyone visiting the Library. In addition, a Web page is created for each veteran who contributes an interview.

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for me. We have much to learn from those who have served our Nation, and I wholeheartedly support this important project.

On this Veterans Day, November 12, 2007, I am proud to recognize the Peak Center's Veterans History Project participation at a special event, Preserving Their Stories: A Salute to Veterans History Project Volunteers, at the Hiway Theatre in Jenkintown. This special celebration will bring together Americans, both young and old, with veterans of all ages, to honor their common service to their fellow citizens and country.

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#### CONGRATULATING JAMES HILL ON RECEIVING THE FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR

#### HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate James Hill, an 83-year-old service veteran from Elora, Tennessee. When Napoleon Bonaparte created the French Legion of Honor in 1802 to recognize service to the Nation of France, he could not have imagined that the newly formed United States of America would come to the rescue of his then empire nearly one and a half centuries after its creation.

Yesterday, President Nicolas Sarkozy of France came to Washington to present the distinguished French Legion of Honor to six American veterans from the Second World War to honor and thank them for their sacrifice in the liberation of France from Nazi Germany. I am pleased to know that James Hill was among them.

It was June 6th, 1944 that the battle of Normandy began, bringing James and other members of the Army's 116th Infantry unit to Omaha Beach for one of the defining moments of the War, and our Nation's history. James was wounded in the battle and spent three months in a British hospital, only to return from his injuries to fight in the Battle of the Bulge.

While the loss of life on all sides was immense, our Country will forever remember the Second World War as a defining point in our history. Before the War, the American military machine was not what it is today, but we stood together as a Nation nonetheless, with the Allied powers around the world, to fight for the freedom of our neighbors and ourselves. I could not be prouder of what men and women of courage like James Hill have done for our Country, or more pleased to see that James was awarded this prestigious honor.

I would like to ask my colleagues today to join me in recognizing James Hill for what he did to defend the people of France, the United States and freedom across the globe.